Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

RECENT LITERATURE.

G. H. Williams's Elements of Crystallography. Holt & Co., New York., 1890, pp. VIII., 250, Figs. 383.—At last mineralogists—practical specialists as well as teachers—are to be congratulated on the appearance of a treatise which discusses the numerous forms of crystallography in such a logical manner that they need no longer confuse the mind or bother the student. Dr. Williams has given us the first clear statement of the beautiful truths of crystallography that has appeared in English. Not only has he done this, but he has produced the best concise treatise on the subject that has anywhere appeared. In this country there has long existed a demand for a connected description of the relation of the various crystallographic forms to each other, in order that the excellent discipline afforded by the methods used in developing these from each other might be availed of in college instruction.

All who have studied crystallography as a system are agreed that no subject exists which has a higher value than this as a corrector of loose thought and hasty expression. Its tardy introduction into the curricula of our colleges has been due more to the lack of a good textbook than to anything intrinsically hard in the subject itself. Happily there is no longer an excuse for the neglect of this important science. The little book before us comprehends within its small volume all of the most essential principles of the science. It is well written, concise in expression, clear in the statement of the thought, and logical in the development of the ideas contained in it.

It opens with the discussion of the molecule, takes up in order the general principles underlying crystallography, treats each of the seven systems in detail, tells something about crystal aggregates, and describes the various methods made use of in the graphical representation of crystals. Both the Naumann and the Miller systems of nomenclature appear side by side whenever the symbol of a plane or form is needed, and so the reader is brought into frequent contact with these two rival claimants for ascendency. The notion of symmetry is everywhere emphasized, and this it is that gives the treatise its logical connection. The book is very well illustrated. It contains few typographical errors, and in general make-up it leaves but little to be desired.

The publishers, as well as the author, deserve the commendation of all mineralogists for their successful attempt to place before the English-reading public a volume which shall be worthy of their unqualified approbation. It is to be hoped that their venture (for it is a venture to place upon the market such an expensive book as this must have been at such a low price) will prove no less profitable financially than it has proved excellent from a scientific and bibliographic point of view.

We expect an immediate adoption of the book by all the leading colleges in the country, not only because of the importance of the subject of which it treats, but also because of its excellent qualities as a treatise.—W. S. B.

Britton's Catalogue of New Jersey Plants.[1]—This thick volume of 642 octavo pages is one of which the botanists of the country may well feel proud, inasmuch as it is the most complete of any yet attempted in the United States. From the table in the end of the volume we learn that there are :

Anthophyta	1,919	species and varieties.
Pteridophyta	76	" " "
Bryophyta	461	" " "
Thallophyta	3,021	" " "
Protophyta	164	" " "
Total	5,641	" " "

The preface states that "the present work is based, so far as the flowering plants, ferns, and fern allies are concerned, on specimens actually seen and examined by myself, and contained in the State Herbarium above alluded to, or in other collections of repute. The lists of lower plants have been supplied by specialists of high reputation and authority." It is thus an authoritative catalogue, which is susceptible of correction, if need be, at any time in the future.

In discussing the distribution of the plants of the State the author refers to the rocky and mountainous areas of the northeastern portion, the glacial drift of the same region, the lower level of the southern part, and the much greater sandiness of its soil. "Our flora may thus be divided with considerable accuracy into a northern and a southern, whose present distribution has been determined by differences of soil and climate." These are separated by the glacial terminal moraine. "Besides these two main divisions of our flora, there is another, which may be termed the marine and coast group of plants,—species and varieties especially characteristic of the sea-beaches and salt and brackish

---

[1] Catalogue of Plants Found in New Jersey. (From the final report of the State Geologist, Vol. II.). By N. L. Britton, Ph.D., with the assistance of the botanists of the State and contiguous territory, and of specialists in the several departments of the science. Trenton, N. J.: Printed by The John L. Murphy Publishing Company, 1889.